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240605Z Sep 01

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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	USNW-00
	DODE-00	DS-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	LAB-01
	VCE-00	DCP-01	NSAE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	IIP-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/004W		
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9790
INFO NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY ABUJA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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SIPDIS

AF/PD FOR COX, ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT, AF/P,
INR/R/MR, NSC FOR JENDAYI FRAZER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ZI](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORT BELLAMY ON DEMOCRACY BILL AFTER
TERROR ATTACKS; HARARE

1. THE INDEPENDENT DAILY "THE DAILY NEWS" AND THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED DAILY "THE HERALD" COVERED THE SEPTEMBER 20 AMERICAN EMBASSY TELEVISION INTERACTIVE CENTERING ON AFRICAN DIPLOMACY AFTER THE TERROR ATTACKS IN THE U. S. WITH MR. WILLIAM M. BELLAMY, ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS. CONCENTRATING ON BELLAMY'S RESPONSES TO A QUESTION REGARDING THE FATE OF THE ZIMBABWE DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY BILL AFTER THE TERRORIST ATTACKS AND THE ABUJA ACCORD RAISED BY MARVELOUS MAPININGA, DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR OF "THE HERALD" (WHO ALSO COVERED THE FRANK AND LIVELY DISCUSSION PROGRAM), THE SEPTEMBER 21 EDITIONS OF THE TWO NEWSPAPERS CARRIED THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

2. UNDER HEADLINE "U. S. ACTION ON MUGABE IMMINENT," THE LEAD ARTICLE IN THE "DAILY NEWS" BY THE PAPER'S CHIEF REPORTER CONRAD NYAMUTATA READS:

"THE U.S., STILL SMARTING FROM FATAL TERRORIST ATTACKS LAST WEEK, SAYS DESPITE THE TRAGEDY, IT WOULD STILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION AGAINST ZIMBABWE BECAUSE OF RECURRENT STATE-SPONSORED VIOLENCE. SPEAKING FROM WASHINGTON VIA SATELLITE YESTERDAY, WILLIAM BELLAMY, THE U. S. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, VIRTUALLY SIGNALLED THE IMPENDING IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST ZIMBABWE UNLESS THE SITUATION CHANGED. HE WAS RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON THE

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FATE OF THE ZIMBABWE DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY BILL, AFTER TERRORIST ATTACKS IN WHICH HIJACKERS ON THREE CIVILIAN PLANES RAMMED INTO THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND THE PENTAGON, WHILE A FOURTH CRASHED INTO THE GROUND ON 11 SEPTEMBER. THE BILL, SEEKING TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON ZIMBABWE, WAS TO BE TABLED BEFORE CONGRESS THIS MONTH. 'I CAN'T SAY WHAT ACTION CONGRESS WILL TAKE ON THAT PIECE OF LEGISLATION,' HE SAID, 'BUT CONCERN IN THE U. S. OVER EVENTS IN ZIMBABWE REMAINS HIGH.' BELLAMY, ACCUSING THE MUGABE GOVERNMENT OF FOMENTING LAWLESSNESS, SAID ACTION AGAINST ZIMBABWE WAS ALMOST CERTAIN. 'WE ARE CONCERNED BY THE VIOLENCE ORCHESTRATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE, AND THE POLITICAL REPRESSION,' HE SAID. 'THE CONCERNS REMAIN FOREMOST. AND I MUST SAY THERE IS CONSENSUS BETWEEN THE U. S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS FOR AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE ON ZIMBABWE. . . .'

3. UNDER HEADLINE "U. S. SECRETARY OF STATE REFUSES TO DISCUSS ABUJA PACT," THE "HERALD" PUBLISHED FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY MARVELOUS MANIPININGA ON PAGE

TWO:

"THE ACTING U. S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, MR. WILLIAM BELLAMY, YESTERDAY REFUSED TO TALK ABOUT THE LANDMARK ABUJA AGREEMENT, PREFERRING INSTEAD TO FOCUS ON VIOLENCE IN ZIMBABWE WHICH HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS PHANTOM BY THE GOVERNMENT. SPEAKING FROM WASHINGTON DURING A TELE-
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CONFERENCE WITH JOURNALISTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA, NIGERIA, UGANDA AND ZIMBABWE, MR. BELLAMY SAID THE U. S. CONGRESS AND ADMINISTRATION WERE CONCERNED WITH THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE IN THE COUNTRY. THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY, PROFESSOR JONATHAN MOYO, SAID THE LANGUAGE ABOUT VIOLENCE COMING FROM MR. BELLAMY WAS 'MOST UNHELPFUL.' 'VIOLENCE BEGETS VIOLENCE AND THE TALK ABOUT PHANTOM VIOLENCE IN ZIMBABWE CAN ONLY ENCOURAGE UNSCRUPULOUS ELEMENTS, AMONG THEM EX-RHODESIANS BELONGING TO THE MDC (MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE), TO INSTIGATE VIOLENCE IN THE HOPE OF USING IT AS A POLITICAL PLATFORM. . WE ARE TOTALLY AGAINST VIOLENCE AND THAT IS WHY WE ARE THE MOST PEACEFUL COUNTRY IN THE REGION. . THE TIME HAS COME FOR PEOPLE LIKE MR. BELLAMY TO IDENTIFY VIOLENCE WHERE IT IS AND IT IS CERTAINLY NOT IN ZIMBABWE BECAUSE WE WILL NOT ALLOW IT,' SAID PROFESSOR MOYO. . (HE), HOWEVER, SAID FAIR-MINDED OBSERVERS WOULD BE SHOCKED AND DISAPPOINTED BY MR. BELLAMY'S REFUSAL TO COMMENT ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT

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DS-00 EUR-00 UTED-00 VC-00 TEDE-00 LAB-01 VCE-00
NSAE-00 TEST-00 USIE-00 IIP-00 DSCC-00 DRL-02 NFAT-00
SAS-00 /003W
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P 240605Z SEP 01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9791
INFO NSC WASHDC
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